

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A piston ring comprising:
a plurality of surfaces, wherein at least one of said plurality of surfaces includes a first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.
2. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating has a thickness of about 0.0002" to about 0.0003".
3. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating has a hardness of at least 70 on the Rockwell "C" hardness scale.
4. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating has a static coefficient of friction of about 0.12.
5. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said first coating withstands temperatures of about -400°F to about 1600°F
6. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said plurality of surfaces includes upper and lower radially extending surfaces each including said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.
7. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 6, wherein said plurality of surfaces includes a radially inner vertical surface including said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.

Application No.: 10/672,488

Docket No.: 60680-1792

8. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 1, wherein said plurality of surfaces includes a radially outer vertical surface having a second coating.

9. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 8, wherein said second coating is a thermal spray coating.

10. (Withdrawn) A piston ring according to Claim 8, wherein said radially outer vertical surface is exclusive of said first coating.

11. (Withdrawn) A piston ring according to Claim 8, wherein said radially outer vertical surface having said second coating further includes said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.

12. (Currently Amended) A piston ring comprising:
upper and lower radially extending surfaces;
a radially inner vertical surface; and
a radially outer vertical surface; and
wherein said lower radially extending surface includes a first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.

13. (Currently Amended) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said upper radially extending surface includes said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.

14. (Currently Amended) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said radially inner vertical surface includes said first coating of nodular thin dense chromium.

15. (Canceled)

Application No.: 10/672,488

Docket No.: 60680-1792

16. (Currently Amended) A piston ring according to Claim ~~15~~ 12, wherein said first coating has a hardness of at least 70 on the Rockwell "C" hardness scale.

17. (Currently Amended) A piston ring according to Claim ~~15~~ 12, wherein said first coating has a static coefficient of friction of about 0.12.

18. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said first coating has a thickness of about 0.0002" to about 0.0003".

19. (Original) A piston ring according to Claim 12, wherein said radially outer vertical surface includes a second coating of a thermal spray coating.

20. (Withdrawn) A piston ring according to Claim 19, wherein said radially outer vertical surface further includes said first coating.